

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Inspection Unit is responsible to ensure that all boilers and pressure vessels are inspected in accordance with The Maryland Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act and Regulations. This responsibility involves Inspection for proper construction, installation, maintenance, use, repair and inspection.

The Law also requires that any boiler or pressure vessel that will be installed in Maryland be built to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, and be registered with the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors. The Law requires that boilers and pressure vessels be inspected annually or biennially (every two years) depending on the type of equipment.



### Boiler Safety Inspection

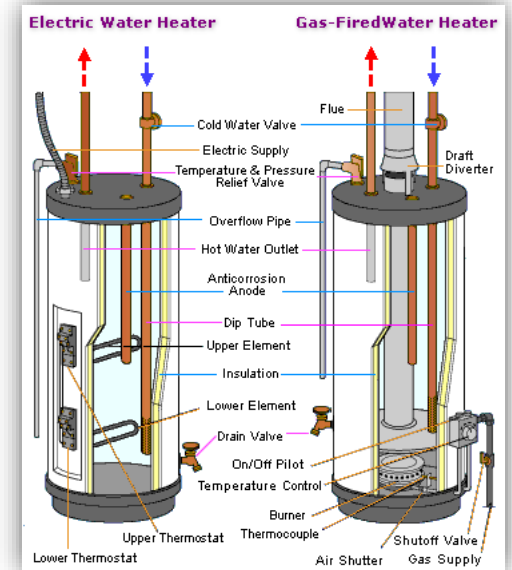
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Learn more about Boiler safety in Maryland by logging onto:  
[www.dllr.maryland.gov/labor/safety/boil.shtml](http://www.dllr.maryland.gov/labor/safety/boil.shtml)

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## Maryland Hot Water Heater Safety



*Our mission is to inspect boilers and pressure vessels in order to reduce danger to the public.*

## Hot Water Heater Overview & Care

If not cared for properly, a 20-gallon storage water heater can explode with enough energy to rocket through a three-story building, scald all those within, and cause structural collapse and fire. The shock wave from the explosion can cause massive internal injuries to humans.

A room containing a water heater should stay properly ventilated. Deadly carbon monoxide will be produced if the burner does not have adequate air circulation in order to prevent incomplete fuel combustion.

*Note: Drain water from your tank two to four times a year. When water is heated, calcium carbonate settles to the bottom of the tank. This sediment reduces the efficiency of your water heater, as well as its storage capacity and eventually its lifespan.*

## Hot Water Heater Installation

A Storage Water Heater should be installed on a solid floor or on a structure designed to safely support a Water Heater completely filled with water. Clearance measurements must comply with all jurisdictional requirements.

A water heater is a type of hot water supply boiler. Each must comply with the Maryland Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act except if NONE of the following limitations are exceeded

- Heat Input of 200,000 BTU/hour.
- Water Temp of 210 Degrees Fahrenheit.
- Nominal Water capacity of 120 gallons.



## Hot Water Heater Safety

### Do Not:

- Block ventilation openings to the water heater room.
- Store flammables close the water heater.
- Operate if it is overheated.
- Operate without thermometer and safety valve on.
- Operate with an expired inspection certificate.

### Always:

- Install a temperature and pressure safety relief valve with relieving capacity equal to or greater than the burner heat input rating.
- Provide a drain pipe from the safety valve directly to within 6" above the floor.
- Install a thermometer on hot water discharge pipe.
- Have the heater inspected externally biennially (every two years) as required by state law.
- Test safety devices on a periodic basis.
- Inspect the water heater regularly for proper operation.
- Maintain a log of maintenance, repairs and tests of controls.
- Keep the Heater Room ventilated.

Boilers and Pressure Vessel Installers shall notify the Chief Boiler Inspector in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to installation.

